



Library Newsletter - Spring/Summer 2010

June's Jottings

Hello again, and welcome to the Spring/Summer edition of the Trustees Newsletter for Towanda Public Library. In these pages you'll find library news and activities, book reviews, new book lists, and general information. We want you to know that we're proud to be your hometown library and we hope you enjoy reading about us.

Library News:

We've learned recently that a grant proposal for the Library Services and Technology Act Grant has been successful. This proposal was submitted collaboratively with Green Free Library in Canton to maximize our resources. The grant proposes to fund teen programming, teen library materials (books, books on CD, DVDs, games, and magazines) and a volunteer program for teens. We're very excited about it and have been working with a teen advisory board to plan a teen space in the library.

The Library staff in conjunction with the Friends of the Library is investigating some new ways to light up the steps leading to the front door and the front book drop. Different ideas have been tossed around so we've contacted a professional electrician to help us decide the best course of action.

Library staff has been busy weeding. Yes, that's correct, weeding. Just as your flowers and vegetables get crowded out by less attractive and useful plants, so do the gems on library shelves get crowded out by outdated, worn and torn volumes. And, of course, the library has limited space. At some point, the number of books must remain constant. In order to put new books on the shelves, something must go. Some of the library discards go to the Friends of the Library Book Sale. We always try to find homes for books that are still useful. However,

many of the titles dealing with medicine, science, and law should be recycled rather than promote outdated information.

Speaking of gardening, the library has LOTS of wonderful gardening books from perennial gardens to vegetable gardens and fruit trees. Some are new but there are many old favorites. On our back room shelves, waiting for processing, is the *All New Square Foot Gardening* by Mel Bartholomew. In a 4x4 box, you can harvest in one season, one head of cabbage, one head of broccoli, one head of cauliflower, four heads of romaine lettuce, four heads of red lettuce, four heads of leaf lettuce, sixteen scallions, five pounds of sugar peas, eight bunches of Swiss chard, nine bunches of spinach, sixteen ball carrots, sixteen beets, and thirty two radishes. How does the author accomplish this? Reserve it today and find out!

June Houghtaling
Library Director

Trustee News

The trustees wish to announce changes to the membership of the Board. We have welcomed Linda Chernosky and Ruth Tonachel.

Have you seen new entrance door at the Towanda Public Library Annex building? This is new work on the Annex building completed lately. The Library Board is now working with Larson Design Group architect Andrew Harding and Joyce Seno to plan for renovation of the first floor to house a children's library in the future.

The Public Relations committee schedules cabinet displays through the year. If you or an organization you support would like to reserve a month to display artifacts or collections, leave the information at the desk and the committee will contact you.

Towanda Public Library to Offer Teen Summer Reading

Area teens are invited to participate in "Teen Summer Reading." Beginning June 20th through July 31st, teens are invited to keep track of the number of minutes they read. For every hour of reading, they will be entered in a drawing for prizes each week. The prizes will be used in displays at the library and can be seen the week of the drawing.

Drawings start Friday, June 25th at 10:30AM and will continue every Friday through July 30th. Prizes will also be awarded to the top three readers at conclusion of summer reading. No registration is required. For more information, call the library at 265-2470.

"Teen Summer Reading" is sponsored by The Friends of the Towanda Public Library, and a Library Services and Technology Act Grant administered by Commonwealth Libraries.



HELLO from the Friends of the Towanda Library

We had an exceptional response to our January book drive this year. Bins were located in Memorial Hospital and Hurley's Market, and resulted in hundreds of book donations. As a result, we were able to hold an all day sale in Feb., resulting in an almost \$800 profit!

Combined with the income from the antique appraisal sale in Sept, we were able to purchase new rugs for the library, and buy the Wii for the teen program.

We meet on the third Monday of the month in the conference room at 1 PM and would love to see you there. Your input on fund raising projects would be more than welcome. Please consider joining us, and bring a friend!!!!!!

**Kay Fulmer
President of the Friends**



Memorial Donations & Gifts

The Towanda Public Library received gifts recently in memory of the following people:

Marion Baker by Maryjane Galik.

Barbara Brace by Sue Rechner, Ruth Tonachel.

Gordon Hay by William and Nancy Hay.

Harold Hoiaas by Rochelle, Robin, and Jim Dickson, Jan and Carl Watkins.

Charles "Chuck" McCracken by Helen and Wally Harris.

Niles Newton by The Riverstone Inn.

Renee B. Odom by Bryce and Robin Burgess.

Guy E. Pardoe, Sr. by The Towanda High School Class of 1955.

Ruth Prusack by Ruth Tonachel & Alex Belokur

Charles "Chuck" Reeve by Helen and Wally Harris.

Virginia Schultz by Kurt and Vicki Schmidt, Bob and Beth Bixby, Brian Brenda and Barbara McNeal.

Lucille Smith by Gladys A. Abell, Jody Cooley and Family, Jim and Arlene Nalisnick & Teddy, Charles and Donna Madigan, Nellie Miller and Family, Ray and Donna Hoffman, Walter Smith.

John T. Walsh by Ruth Tonachel.

Donations were made by Frederick Lengemann, Julie and Mark Christini, The Wednesday Club, and Elaine Engisch.

The Towanda Public Library's memorial fund provides a way for family and friends to commemorate their loved ones in a beneficial and lasting way. Through the years, more than four thousand books have been purchased with the funds.

For more information on contributing to the fund, contact the library at 265-2470.



Book Review:

Winter Garden by Kristin Hannah

Winter Garden is the latest novel by New York Times Bestseller, Kristin Hannah. *Winter Garden* is the kind of book that you cannot put down and wish would never end. *Winter Garden* is a story about two girls who wish that they knew their mother better. They also find out secrets about her past that makes all the difference in the world and in the process they find a future that they never would have ever thought possible.

Winter Garden tells the story of two sisters who are very different from one another. One sister, Nina Whitson, made a life for herself by becoming a world renowned photographer, while her sister, Meredith, stayed home, married, and took care of everyone else and everything. They had a very loving relationship with their father while they had no relationship at all with their cold and distant mother. After the unexpected death of their father, they both try to bridge the gap with their mother and each other. At first, they have no luck, but a promise that was asked by their father to their mother, starts to put in motion something that they find totally unexpected. You see, their mother had a life before them and another family in another lifetime. Their mother tells her story to them through a Russian fairytale. She lets them know, in flashbacks, about her life in Russia and how she came to be cold and distant. Their mother endured pain, suffering, death, and so much more in her life growing up in Russia.

As she tells them the story, they all become closer and understand more about their lives. In the end, something totally unexpected and joyous will happen that will make all the pain and suffering that their mother endured worthwhile.

This is by far one of the best books that Kristin Hannah has written so far. She has had some incredible books that I have read but this one is simply one of her best. I could not put it down and did not want the book to end. I would highly recommend this book to anyone who is looking for a good book to read, one that they will remember long after they have read it. So why not come down to the library and check this book out. I know for a fact that you will really enjoy this book.

Stephanie Grohol
Desk Librarian and Avid Reader

Non-Fiction:

Really, Real Books!

Now that it's summertime let's talk baseball! Towanda Public Library has a wonderful new book titled *Baseball Americana: Treasures from the Library of Congress* by Harry Katz et al. This book is a gem of information about the history of "America's Game."

"The Library of Congress houses the world's largest baseball collection, documenting the history of the game and providing a unique look at America since the 1700's." The book has "over 350 fabulous illustrations—many never before published—packed with images that will surprise and even thrill even the most expert collector." This book is a great escape for baseball lovers! It's like having the Baseball Hall of Fame, or the Library of Congress Baseball collection in your hands!

Another great book sitting on the new non-fiction shelves is *Making Rounds With Oscar* by David Dosa, M.D. This ordinary cat that lives in the Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Rhode Island has a remarkable talent (or gift): he can sense hours before when a resident is going to die. Oscar has received national press and television coverage as he goes about comforting the residents of the Center. The doctors and nurses have been surprised for several years that the resident that Oscar chooses to cuddle up to, and stay with, dies within hours.

Instead of being morbid or depressing, this book dwells on the positive comfort and release that Oscars gives the resident and the family. Leading scientists have tested and studied Oscar (and other animals like him). Many theories have been suggested. Most of the medical staff and families of the residents call him a blessing. Dosa, the author, said "...I'd like to think Oscar embodies empathy and companionship. He is a critical cog in a well-oiled and dedicated health care team." This is a tender and well-written book that reminds us all to have compassion and empathy.

Bobbie Hansen
ILL/Reference Librarian





TOWANDA PUBLIC LIBRARY
Providing resources for life-long learning

**104 Main Street
Towanda PA 18848
(570) 265-2470
www.towandapubliclibrary.org**

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10 - 5, Friday & Saturday**

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BOOK SALE Friends of the Library
Monthly, every first Wednesday - 3 to 7 PM in the Library Basement - 104 Main St., Towanda, PA

For more information call us here at the library at 265-2470.

Both Programs will be held in the social room of the First United Methodist Church located at 105 Main Street across the street from the library. Both shows are free and open to the public.

This year the theme is "Make a Splash Read." Summer reading will run for six weeks (June 20-July 31). We will have a Time for Twos that will meet on Tuesday mornings from 10:30-11:30, preschool story-time that will meet on Wednesday mornings from 10:30-11:30, and we will have a School-Aged Reading Program on Wednesdays from 1-2. On June 30 at 1:30 PM we will have "Catfish Charlie's Fishin' for Fun Comedy Show." Charlie and his puppet partners will tell jokes and fishing tales, and sing camp songs. Children will enjoy the fun, interactive, original, and humorous show

On July 7 at 1:30 PM we will have field Paleontologists Mike and Roberta Straka visiting us. They will introduce us to "Molly the Mosasaur" an undersea reptile that they discovered in 2003. During their program children will enjoy a "Reptile Game Show", show and tell with real fossils, magic, puppets, and a fun science experiment

Who can believe that it is already time for summer reading?